

## Appendix 1:

### Indigenous Ecosystems – S. 42A report recommended amendments to proposed provisions with additional amendments suggested by Christine Foster (shown in blue):

---

#### Chapter introduction



An ecosystem may be described as a community of plants, animals and micro-organisms interacting with each other and their surrounding environment.

As well as contributing to the region's natural character and having their own intrinsic values, healthy ecosystems provide us with life's essentials – such as plants and animals for food, fibre for clothing, timber for construction. This is true even in an industrialised age, although the connections are less immediately obvious. Healthy ecosystems supply us with 'services' that support life on this planet – such as:

- Processes to purify air and water
- Decomposition and detoxification of wastes
- Creation and *maintenance* of productive soils
- Reduction of the impact of climate extremes
- Capture of carbon and *maintenance* of a functioning atmosphere

Ecosystems are dynamic (constantly changing) and the many diverse natural processes that drive ecosystems are as important as the biodiversity values within them. In addition, all parts of an ecosystem are interconnected. The species that make up an ecosystem, including humans, cannot exist in isolation from the other species and non-living parts of the ecosystem. The primacy of healthy ecosystems is central to Māori cultural values, whereby harm to mauri directly affects the wellbeing of the people. More specifically, degradation of ecosystems threatens mahinga kai (places where food is gathered) and other natural resources used for customary purposes.

The Wellington region has a distinctive range of ecosystems – such as forests, mountains, wetlands, lakes, rivers and coastal and marine ecosystems. Some ecosystems have retained a high degree of indigenousness dominance – such as the Tararua, Reimutaka and Aorangi ranges, while others are dominated by exotic species – such as pastoral farmlands.

The area of indigenous ecosystems has been in decline since humans first settled in our region. This loss greatly accelerated from the time of European settlement. Around 70 per cent of the indigenous forest and more than 90 per cent of the wetlands that existed in 1840,

have been cleared for agriculture and urban development. Most of the remaining ~~forest and wetlands and dune~~ ecosystems have been degraded or modified in some way. In addition, many of the processes that ensure ecosystems remain healthy and viable into the future have been compromised, including reproduction, recruitment, dispersal and migration.

Human actions that continue to impact on the remaining indigenous ecosystems include:

- Modification and, in some cases, destruction of ecosystems by pest plants and animals, grazing animals and clearance of indigenous vegetation
- Contamination of aquatic ecosystems by sediment, pollutants and nutrients
- Destruction of ecosystems as a result of development
- Modification of natural waterways, such as dDraining natural wetlands and channelling, constraining or piping of natural waterways rivers and streams
- Contamination of coastal ecosystems by stormwater and sewage discharges

**Commented [c1]:** Amendment proposed in Section 4 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024. For this purpose, 'natural wetland' does not include a wetland constructed by artificial means (unless it was constructed to offset impacts on, or restore, an existing former natural wetland).

Although New Zealand has an extensive network of public conservation land (comprising over a third of the country), this does not adequately represent all types of indigenous ecosystem. With few options to expand the public conservation estate, the restoration of ecosystems relies upon the good will and actions of landowners. There are a number of individuals, whānau, hapu, iwi, and community groups and organisations throughout the region that are working to restore indigenous ecosystems. Public support for restoring indigenous ecosystems on public land and landowners retiring farmland has led to the regeneration of indigenous bush in rural gullies, along riparian margins, in regional parks and in urban backyards. This has led to increases in some indigenous habitats, such as in the hills around Wellington City, with sanctuaries such as Zealandia and pest control efforts increasing the number and variety of native-indigenous birds and invertebrates around the city. However, there is still much work to be done to improve the conservation status of for many native of the region's indigenous ecosystems and species so that to be in a healthy functioning state, with the resilience to persist in the long-term. The restoration of indigenous ecosystems on public, whānau, hapū, iwi and private land provides both public and private benefit.

The decision-making principles for indigenous biodiversity recognise that the health and wellbeing of people and communities depend on the health and wellbeing of indigenous biodiversity and that, in return, people have a responsibility to care for and nurture it. The principles acknowledge the interconnectedness between indigenous species, ecosystems, the wider environment, and the community, at both a physical and metaphysical level. These principles must inform and be given effect to when managing indigenous biodiversity across the Wellington Region, ensuring that te ao Māori, mātauranga, and tikanga Māori are applied appropriately to protect, maintain and restore indigenous biodiversity.

Ecosystem health can be measured in a number of ways, including the composition, richness and indigenous dominance of communities, function of ecosystem processes (e.g., degree to which it is connected or fragmented), or the extent of the ecosystem remaining. ~~loss of individual species, loss of overall diversity of species, loss of an ecosystem's ability to function on an ongoing basis, and loss of complete ecosystems and types of ecosystems.~~ While the dramatic collapse of species or whole ecosystems can capture attention, the gradual erosion of ecosystems' sustainability is also a significant issue.

The regionally significant issues and the issues of significance to the Wellington region's iwi authorities for indigenous ecosystems are:

1. The region's indigenous ecosystems are reduced in extent

The region's indigenous ecosystems have been significantly reduced in extent and are being increasingly fragmented. Loss of area, **ecological integrity** and **ecological connectivity** reduce the **resilience** of ecosystems to respond to ongoing pressures, threatening their persistence and that of the indigenous biodiversity and **mahinga kai** they support. The indigenous ecosystems most reduced in extent are specifically:

- (a) natural wetlands
- (b) lowland forests
- (c) lowland streams
- (d) coastal duneslands and escarpments
- (e) estuaries
- (f) eastern 'dry land' forests.

2. The region's remaining indigenous ecosystems are under threat.

The region's remaining indigenous ecosystems, and the ecosystem processes that support them, continue to be degraded or lost due to ongoing pressure from invasive species, human use and development, and the effects of climate change.

3. Mana whenua /tangata whenua ~~iwi and landowner~~ values and roles are not adequately recognised and supported.

Mana whenua /tangata whenua values and roles, including kaitiakitanga, are not adequately recognised and supported by the current approach to managing indigenous biodiversity. ~~The conservation efforts of landowners, as stewards of their land, and local communities could be better recognised and supported.~~

4. Landowner values and roles are not adequately recognised and supported.

Commented [c2]: Amendment proposed in Section 4 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024. For this purpose, 'natural wetland' does not include a wetland constructed by artificial means (unless it was constructed to offset impacts on, or restore, an existing former natural wetland).

The conservation efforts of landowners, as stewards of their land, and local communities could be better recognised and supported.

#### **Objective 16**

Indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant ~~ecosystem functions and services and/or~~ indigenous biodiversity values, ~~other significant habitats of indigenous fauna, and the ecosystem functions that support these ecosystems and habitats,~~ are ~~maintained~~ protected ~~and, where appropriate, are enhanced,~~ and restored to a healthy functioning state.

Commented [c3]: Amendment proposed in Section 5 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024.

#### **Objective 16A**

The region's indigenous ~~biodiversity is ecosystems are maintained~~ ~~and, where appropriate is enhanced,~~ and restored to a healthy functioning state, improving ~~its their~~ resilience to increasing environmental pressures, particularly climate change, ~~and giving effect to the Te Rito o te Harakeke.~~

Commented [c4]: Amendment proposed in Section 6 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024.

#### **Objective 16B**

Mana whenua / tangata whenua values relating to indigenous biodiversity, particularly taonga species, and the important relationship between indigenous ecosystem health and well-being, are given effect to in decision-making, and mana whenua / tangata whenua are supported to exercise their kaitiakitanga for indigenous biodiversity.

#### **Objective 16C**

Landowner and community values in relation to indigenous biodiversity are recognised and provided for and their roles as stewards are supported.

#### **Policy 23: Identifying indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values – district and regional plans**

~~By June 2025, As soon as reasonably practicable and by no later than 4 August 2028,~~

~~D~~district and regional plans shall identify and evaluate indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values; ~~e~~Ecosystems and habitats will be considered significant if:

1. In the terrestrial environment, they meet the criteria in Appendix 1, and are identified in accordance with the principles in Clause 3.8, of the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023; and
2. In the coastal marine area, the beds of lakes and rivers, and wetlands, they meet one or more of the following criteria:

(a) Representativeness: the ecosystems or habitats that are typical and characteristic examples of the full range of the original or current natural diversity of ecosystem and habitat types in a district or in the region, and:

- (i) are no longer commonplace (less than about 30% remaining); or
- (ii) are poorly represented in existing protected areas (less than about 20% legally protected).

(b) Rarity: the ecosystem or habitat has biological or physical features that are scarce or threatened in a local, regional or national context. This can include individual species, rare and distinctive biological communities and physical features that are unusual or rare.

(c) Diversity: the ecosystem or habitat has a natural diversity of ecological units, ecosystems, species and physical features within an area.

(d) Ecological context of an area: the ecosystem or habitat:

- (i) enhances *connectivity* or otherwise *buffers* representative, rare or diverse indigenous ecosystems and habitats; or
- (ii) provides seasonal or core habitat for protected or threatened indigenous species.

(e) Mana whenua / t̄Tangata whenua values: the ecosystem or habitat contains characteristics of special spiritual, historical or cultural significance to mana whenua / tangata whenua, identified in accordance with tikanga Māori.

#### Explanation

Policy 23 sets out the criteria as guidance that must be met for an considered in identifying indigenous ecosystems and or habitats to be considered to have with significant indigenous biodiversity values. This evaluation is to be completed and the ecosystems and habitats identified as having significant indigenous biodiversity values included in a district or regional plan as soon as reasonably practicable and by no later than 4 August 2028 by 30 June 2025.

Wellington Regional Council, and district and city councils are required to assess indigenous ecosystems and habitats against all the criteria but the relevance of each will depend on the individual cases. To be classed as having significant biodiversity values, an indigenous ecosystem or habitat must meet # one or more of the listed criteria in Policy 23(1) or (2). Wellington Regional Council and district and city councils will need to engage directly with landowners and work collaboratively with them to identify areas, undertake field evaluation, and assess significance. In the terrestrial environment, significance assessments must be undertaken in accordance with the principles in Clause 3.8 of the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023. Policy 23 will ensure that significant biodiversity values are identified in district and regional plans in a consistent way.

Indigenous ecosystems and habitats can have additional values of significance to mana whenua / tangata whenua. There are a number of indigenous ecosystems and habitats across the region that are significant to tangata whenua for their ecological characteristics. These ecosystems will be considered for significance under this policy if they still exhibit the ecosystem functions which are considered significant by mana whenua / tangata whenua. Access and use of any identified areas would be subject to landowner agreement. Wellington Regional Council and district and city councils will need to partner engage ~~directly~~ with mana whenua / tangata whenua and work collaboratively with ~~them and other~~ stakeholders, including landowners, to identify areas under this criterion.

Regional plans will identify indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant biodiversity values in the coastal marine area, wetlands and the beds of lakes and rivers. District plans will identify indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant biodiversity values in the terrestrial environment for all land, except for ~~the coastal marine area, and the beds of lakes and rivers-wetlands.~~

**Policy 24: Protecting indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values (except for renewable electricity generation assets and activities) – district and regional plans**

As soon as reasonably practicable and by no later than 4 August 2028, except in relation to renewable electricity generation assets and activities, By 30 June 2025, District and regional plans shall include policies, rules and methods to protect indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values from inappropriate subdivision, use and development, including by applying:

- (a) Clause 3.10 and Clause 3.11 of the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023 to manage adverse effects on significant indigenous biodiversity values in the terrestrial environment;
- (b) Policy 11 of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 to manage adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity values in the coastal environment; and
- (c) Policies 18A and 18B in this Regional Policy Statement to manage adverse effects on the values and extent of natural inland wetlands and rivers.

~~Where the policies and/or rules in district and regional plans enable the use of biodiversity offsetting or biodiversity compensation for an ecosystem or habitat with significant indigenous biodiversity values, they shall:~~

~~(a) not provide for biodiversity offsetting:~~

~~(i) where there is no appropriate site, knowledge, proven methods, expertise or mechanism available to design and implement an adequate biodiversity offset; or~~

Commented [c5]: Amendments proposed in Section 8 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024.

~~(iii) when an activity is anticipated to causes residual adverse effects on an area after an offset has been implemented if the ecosystem or species is threatened or the ecosystem is naturally uncommon;~~

~~(b) not provide for biodiversity compensation where an activity is anticipated to cause residual adverse effects on an area if the ecosystem or species is threatened or the ecosystem is naturally uncommon;~~

~~(c) ecosystems and species known to meet any of the criteria in (a) or (b) are listed in Appendix 1A (Limits to biodiversity offsetting and biodiversity compensation);~~

~~(d) require that the outcome sought from the use of biodiversity offsetting is at least a 10 percent net biodiversity gain, or from biodiversity compensation is at least a 10 percent net biodiversity benefit.~~

#### **Explanation**

Policy 24 applies to provisions in regional and district plans. This requires the protection of significant indigenous biodiversity values in terrestrial, freshwater and coastal environments consistent with section 6(c) of the RMA. It also clarifies that the effects management provisions for significant indigenous biodiversity values in higher order national direction instruments need to be applied when giving effect to this policy in regional and district plans. Policy 24B addresses the management of the effects of renewable electricity generation assets and activities.

~~The policy provides clarity about the limits to, and expected outcomes from, biodiversity offsetting and biodiversity compensation for an ecosystem or habitat with significant indigenous biodiversity values. Ecosystems and species known to meet the criteria in clauses (a and b) are listed in Appendix 1A (Limits to biodiversity offsetting and biodiversity compensation).~~

~~Calculating a 10 percent net biodiversity gain (offsetting) or a 10 percent net biodiversity benefit (compensation) employs the same or a similar calculation methodology used to determine 'no net loss or preferably net gain' under a standard offsetting approach. The distinction between 'net gain' and 'net benefit' is to recognise that the outcomes achievable through the use of offsetting and compensation are different. An offsetting 'net biodiversity gain' outcome is expected to achieve an objectively verifiable increase in biodiversity values while a compensation 'net biodiversity benefit' outcome is more subjective and less preferable.~~

Table 16 in Appendix 1 identifies rivers and lakes with significant indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values by applying criteria taken from policy 23 of rarity (habitat for threatened indigenous fish species) and diversity (high macroinvertebrate community health, habitat for six or more migratory indigenous fish species).

Policy 47 will need to be considered alongside policy 24 when changing, varying or reviewing a regional or district plan.

Policy 24 is not intended to prevent change, but rather to ensure that change is carefully considered and is appropriate in relation to the biodiversity values identified in policy 23.

**Policy 24A: Principles for biodiversity offsetting and biodiversity compensation (except for renewable electricity generation assets and activities)**

- (a) Where district and regional plans provide for biodiversity offsetting or aquatic offsetting or biodiversity compensation or aquatic compensation as part of an effects management hierarchy for indigenous biodiversity and/or for aquatic values and extent, except in relation to renewable electricity generation assets and activities, they shall include policies and methods to:
- (i) ensure this meets the requirements of the full suite of principles for biodiversity offsetting and/or biodiversity compensation set out in Appendix 3 and 4 of the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023 or for aquatic offsetting and/or aquatic compensation set out in Appendix 6 and 7 of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020;
  - (ii) provide further direction on where biodiversity offsetting, aquatic offsetting, biodiversity compensation, and aquatic compensation are not appropriate, in accordance with clauses (b) and (c)<sup>1</sup> below;
  - (iii) provide further direction on required outcomes from biodiversity offsetting, aquatic offsetting, biodiversity compensation, and aquatic compensation, in accordance with clauses (d) and (e)<sup>1</sup> below; and
- (b) In evaluating whether biodiversity offsetting or aquatic offsetting is inappropriate because of irreplaceability or vulnerability of the indigenous biodiversity, extent, or values affected, the feasibility to offset residual adverse effects on any threatened or naturally uncommon ecosystem or threatened species listed in Appendix 1A must be considered as a minimum; and
- (c) In evaluating whether biodiversity compensation or aquatic compensation is inappropriate because of the irreplaceability or vulnerability of the indigenous biodiversity, extent, or values affected, recognise that it is inappropriate to use biodiversity compensation or aquatic compensation where residual adverse effects affect an ecosystem or species that is listed in Appendix 1A as threatened or naturally uncommon; and
- (d) District and regional plans shall include policies and methods that require biodiversity offsetting or aquatic offsetting to achieve at least a net gain, and preferably a 10% net gain or greater, in indigenous biodiversity outcomes to address residual adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity, extent, or values. This requires demonstrating, and

Commented [c6]: Amendments proposed in Section 8 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024.

Commented [c7]: Amendment proposed in Section 8 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024.

<sup>1</sup> References corrected 18/12/23

then achieving, net gains in the type, amount, and condition of the indigenous biodiversity, extent, or values impacted. Calculating net gain requires a like-for-like quantitative loss/ gain calculation of the indigenous biodiversity values (type, amount, and condition) affected by the proposed activity; and

- (e) District and regional plans shall include policies and method to require *biodiversity compensation or aquatic compensation* to achieve positive effects in indigenous biodiversity, extent, or values that outweigh residual adverse effects on affected indigenous biodiversity, extent, or values.

**Explanation:**

Policy 24A recognises that the outcomes achievable through the use of biodiversity or aquatic offsetting and compensation are different. A ‘net gain’ outcome from offsetting is expected to achieve an objectively verifiable increase in the target values, while a compensation outcome is more subjective and less preferable. This policy applies to the use of biodiversity offsetting and biodiversity compensation to address the residual adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity in the terrestrial and coastal environments and aquatic offsetting and compensation to address the loss of extent or values of natural inland wetlands and rivers. Policy 24B addresses the management of the effects of renewable electricity generation assets and activities.

**Policy 24B: Managing the effects of renewable electricity generation assets and activities on indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values – district and regional plans**

As soon as reasonably practicable and no later than 4 August 2028, district and regional plans shall include policies, rules and methods to manage the effects of renewable electricity generation assets and activities on indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values to:

- 1) Allow renewable electricity generation assets and activities in areas with significant indigenous biodiversity values only if:
  - (a) there is an operational or functional need for the assets or activities to be located in that area; and
  - (b) the assets or activities are nationally or regionally significant; and
  - (c) the effects management hierarchy is applied.
- 2) The effects management hierarchy is as follows:
  - (a) adverse effects are avoided where practicable; then
  - (b) where adverse effects cannot be avoided, they are minimised where practicable; then

- (c) where adverse effects cannot be minimised, they are remedied where practicable; then
- (d) where more than minor residual adverse effects cannot be avoided, minimised, or remedied, offsetting is provided where practicable then
- (e) if offsetting of more than minor adverse effects is not practicable, compensation is provided; then
  
- (f) if compensation is not appropriate to address any residual adverse effects:
  - (i) in the case of activities with adverse effects on an area of significant indigenous biodiversity:
    - (A) the activities must be avoided if the residual adverse effects are significant; but
    - (B) if the residual adverse effects are not significant, the activities must be enabled if the national significance and benefits of the activities outweigh the residual adverse effects.
  
- 3) When considering offsetting and compensation, have regard to the principles relating to offsetting and compensation set out in Appendices 3 and 4 of the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023 or for aquatic offsetting and/or aquatic compensation set out in Appendices 6 and 7 of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020.

**Policy 47: Managing effects on indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values – consideration**

When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a change, variation or review of a district or regional plan, a determination shall be made as to whether an activity may affect indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values, and in determining whether the proposed activity is inappropriate particular regard shall be given to:

- (a) maintaining connections within, or corridors between, habitats of indigenous flora and fauna, and/or enhancing the connectivity between fragmented indigenous habitats;
- (b) providing adequate *buffering* around areas of significant indigenous ecosystems and habitats from other land uses;
- (c) managing natural wetlands for the purpose of aquatic ecosystem health, recognising the wider benefits, such as for indigenous biodiversity, water quality and holding water in the landscape;

**Commented [c8]:** Amendment proposed in Section 9.2 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024.

- (d) avoiding the cumulative adverse effects of the incremental loss of indigenous ecosystems and habitats;
- (e) providing seasonal or core habitat for indigenous species;
- (f) protecting the life supporting capacity of indigenous ecosystems and habitats;
- (g) ~~remedying or mitigating~~ minimising or remedying adverse effects on the indigenous biodiversity values where avoiding adverse effects is not practicably achievable; ~~and~~
- (h) the need for a precautionary approach to be adopted when assessing and managing the potential for adverse effects on indigenous ecosystems and habitats, where:
  - (i) the effects on indigenous biodiversity are uncertain, unknown, or little understood; and
  - (ii) those effects could cause significant or irreversible damage to indigenous biodiversity;
- (i) the limits for biodiversity offsetting and biodiversity compensation set out in Appendix 1A the provisions to protect significant biodiversity values in Policy 24, and the principles for biodiversity offsetting and biodiversity compensation in Policy 24A and the effects management hierarchy set out in Policy 24B;
- (j) protecting indigenous biodiversity values of significance to mana whenua/tangata whenua, particularly those associated with a significant site for mana whenua/tangata whenua identified in a regional or district plan;
- (k) enabling established activities affecting significant biodiversity values in the terrestrial environment to continue, provided that the effects of the activities:
  - (i) are no greater in intensity, scale and character; and
  - (ii) do not result in loss of extent, or degradation of ecological integrity, of any significant biodiversity values; and
- (l) ensuring that the adverse effects of plantation forestry activities on significant indigenous biodiversity values in the terrestrial environment are managed in a way that:
  - (i) maintains significant indigenous biodiversity values as far as practicable, while enabling plantation forestry activities to continue; and
  - (ii) where significant biodiversity values are within an existing plantation forest, maintains the long-term populations of any Threatened or At Risk (declining)

Commented [c9]: Amendments proposed in paragraph 9.1 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024.

species present in the area over the course of consecutive rotations of production.

#### **Explanation**

Policy 47 provides an interim assessment framework for councils, resource consent applicants and other interested parties, prior to the identification of ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values in accordance with ~~p~~Policy 23, and the adoption of plan provisions for protection in accordance with ~~p~~Policy 24. ~~Remedying and mitigating effects can include offsetting, where appropriate. Policy 47 makes it clear that the provisions in Policy 24 and Policy 24A to protect significant indigenous biodiversity values must be considered until those policies are given effect to in regional and district plans. Policy 47 also provides for established activities and plantation forestry activities affecting significant indigenous biodiversity values to continue, provided certain tests are met, consistent with the requirements in the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023.~~

In determining whether an activity may affect significant indigenous biodiversity values, the criteria in ~~p~~Policy 23 should be used.

This policy shall cease to have effect once policies 23 and 24 are ~~in place given effect to~~ in an operative district or regional plan, including all of the matters listed in (a) to (l) above.

#### **Policy 61: Allocation of responsibilities for land use controls for indigenous biodiversity**

Regional and district plans shall recognise and provide for the responsibilities below, when developing objectives, policies and methods, including rules, to *maintain* indigenous biodiversity:

- (a) Wellington Regional Council shall be responsible for developing objectives, policies, and methods in the regional policy statement for the control of the use of land to maintain indigenous ~~biological~~ biodiversity;
- (b) Wellington Regional Council shall be responsible for developing objectives, policies, rules and/or methods in regional plans for the control of the use of land to *maintain* and *enhance* ecosystems in water bodies and coastal water. This includes land within the coastal marine area, wetlands and the beds of lakes and rivers; and
- (c) city and district councils shall be responsible for developing objectives, policies, rules and/or methods in district plans for the control of the use of land for the *maintenance* of indigenous ~~biological~~ biodiversity, including to manage associated adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity in freshwater and coastal water in liaison with the Wellington

Regional Council. This excludes controlling the use of land within the *coastal marine area*, ~~and~~ the *beds* of lakes and rivers, and wetlands.

#### **Explanation**

In accordance with section 62 of the Resource Management Act 1991, ~~p~~Policy 61 sets out the local authorities in the Wellington region responsible for specifying the objectives, policies and methods for the control of the use of land to maintain indigenous biological diversity.

District and city councils in the Wellington region have primary responsibility for controlling the use of land ~~to maintain indigenous biological diversity~~ (other than within the coastal marine area, ~~and~~ the *beds* of lakes and rivers, and wetlands) to maintain indigenous biodiversity, including to manage associated adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity in freshwater and coastal water in liaison with the Wellington Regional Council, through the creation of objectives, policies and rules in their district plans.

Wellington Regional Council has the primary responsibility for the control of the use of land to maintain and enhance indigenous ecosystems in water bodies (including wetlands) and coastal water.

Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils shall work together to develop plan provisions and operational arrangements to provide for the coordinated management and control of subdivision, use and development to maintain indigenous biodiversity in receiving water bodies. This includes working collaboratively, such as during structure planning, rezoning, subdivision, and site development, so that the location, layout and design of development is environmentally-responsive.

#### **Policy IE.1: Giving effect to mana whenua roles and values when managing indigenous biodiversity – district and regional plans**

District and regional plans shall include objectives, policies, methods and/or rules to partner with mana whenua/tangata whenua when managing indigenous biodiversity, including to:

- (a) apply mātauranga Māori frameworks, and support mana whenua/tangata whenua to exercise their kaitiakitanga, in managing and monitoring indigenous biodiversity;
- (b) identify and protect acknowledged and identified taonga species, populations, and ecosystems;
- (c) support mana whenua/tangata whenua to access and exercise sustainable customary use of indigenous biodiversity, including for mahinga kai and taonga, in accordance with tikanga;

- (d) maintain and restore indigenous biodiversity on Māori land to the extent practicable, while enabling new occupation, use and development of that land to support the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of mana whenua/tangata whenua.

**Explanation**

Policy IE.1 directs regional and district plans to partner with mana whenua/tangata whenua to recognise and provide for Māori values for indigenous biodiversity, and for the role of mana whenua as kaitiaki in the region. It also directs regional and district plans to include provisions to maintain and restore indigenous biodiversity on Māori land, while enabling appropriate use and development of that land to support the wellbeing of tangata whenua.

**Policy IE.2: Giving effect to mana whenua/tangata whenua roles and values when managing indigenous biodiversity – consideration**

When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a plan change, variation or review of a district plan for subdivision, use or development that may impact on indigenous biodiversity, particular regard shall be given to enabling mana whenua/tangata whenua to exercise their roles as kaitiaki, including, but not restricted to:

- (a) providing for mana whenua/tangata whenua values associated with indigenous biodiversity, including giving local effect to ~~Te Rito o te Harakeke~~ the decision-making principles for indigenous biodiversity,
- (b) incorporating the use of mātauranga Māori in the management and monitoring of indigenous biodiversity; and
- (c) supporting mana whenua/tangata whenua to access and exercise sustainable customary use of indigenous biodiversity, including for mahinga kai and taonga, in accordance with tikanga.

**Explanation**

Policy IE.2 requires consideration of enabling mana whenua / tangata whenua to exercise their kaitiakitanga in the region.

**Policy IE.2A: Maintaining indigenous biodiversity – consideration (except for renewable electricity generation assets and activities)**

When considering an application for a resource consent, notice of requirement, or a plan change, variation or review of a district plan or regional plan (except in relation to renewable electricity generation assets and activities), indigenous biodiversity in the terrestrial environment that does not have significant indigenous biodiversity values and is not on Māori land, shall be maintained by:

- (a) recognising and providing for the importance of maintaining indigenous biodiversity that does not have significant biodiversity values under Policy 23;

Commented [c10]: Amendment proposed in Section 10 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024.

- (b) managing any significant adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity from any proposed activity by applying the effects management hierarchy in the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023; and
- (c) managing all other adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity from any proposed activity to achieve at least no overall loss in indigenous biodiversity within the region or district as applicable.

**Explanation**

Policy IE.2A recognises that it is important to maintain indigenous biodiversity that does not have significant indigenous biodiversity values to meet the requirements in section 30(1)(ga) and section 31(b)(iii) of the RMA. This policy applies to indigenous biodiversity that does not have significant values in the terrestrial environment and requires a more robust approach to managing any significant adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity from a proposed activity and to maintain indigenous biodiversity more generally.

**Policy IE.3: Maintaining, enhancing, and restoring indigenous ecosystem health – non-regulatory**

To maintain, enhance and restore the ecosystem health, ecological integrity and ecological connectivity of the region's indigenous ecosystems, and the ecological processes that support them, giving effect to *the decision-making principles for indigenous biodiversity Te Rito o te Harakeke*, the Regional Policy Statement shall, as soon as practicable:

- (a) identify the characteristics required for the region's indigenous ecosystems to be in a healthy functioning state, including the processes that enable them to persist over the long-term; and
- (b) identify strategic targets and priorities to ensure that management and restoration of indigenous ecosystems and habitats (including pest management) are directed at areas where the greatest gains can be made for indigenous biodiversity. Where possible, priorities should also deliver benefits for *climate change mitigation and/or adaptation*, and freshwater; and

(ba) in relation to the terrestrial environment, and other environments as appropriate, the priorities identified in clause (b) above must include:

- (i) areas with significant indigenous biodiversity values with degraded ecological integrity;
- (ii) threatened and rare ecosystems representative of naturally occurring and formerly present ecosystems;
- (iii) areas that provide important connectivity or buffering functions;

- (iv) natural inland wetlands whose ecological integrity is degraded or that no longer retain their indigenous vegetation or habitat for indigenous fauna;
  - (v) areas of indigenous biodiversity on specified Māori land where restoration is advanced by the Māori landowners; and
  - (vi) any other priorities specified in regional biodiversity strategies or any national priorities for indigenous biodiversity restoration;
- (c) focus restoration efforts on achieving the strategic targets and priorities identified in (b); and
- (d) identify opportunities to promote the resilience of indigenous biodiversity to climate change, including by:
- (i) allowing and supporting natural adjustments of habitats and ecosystems to climate change;
  - (ii) maintaining and promoting the enhancement of the connectivity between ecosystems, and between existing and potential habitats, to enable migrations so that species can continue to find viable niches in response to climate change.

#### **Explanation**

Policy IE.3 will be implemented by the Wellington Regional Council in partnership with mana whenua/tangata whenua and in collaboration with landowners, territorial authorities, communities, and other stakeholders as appropriate.

Policy IE.3 gives effect to Objective 16A, identifying the characteristics required for the region's indigenous ecosystems to be in a healthy functioning state, providing *resilience* to the impacts of increasing environmental pressures, and identifying strategic priorities and targets for *restoration* to ensure that regional conservation actions are applied efficiently, prioritising protection of the ecosystems and habitats of most pressing concern. Policy IE.3 also identifies national priorities for restoration consistent with those identified in the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023 and provides direction on how to promote the resilience of indigenous biodiversity to climate change.

#### **Policy IE.4: Recognising the roles and values of landowners and communities in the management of indigenous biodiversity – non-regulatory**

Recognise and provide for the values of landowners and communities as stewards of the indigenous biodiversity of the Wellington Region, by:

- (a) involving communities in the identification of targets and priorities for *protecting, enhancing* and *restoring* indigenous biodiversity; and
- (b) supporting landowner and community *restoration* of indigenous ecosystems.

#### Explanation

Policy IE.4 recognises and provides for the important role that landowners and the community have as environmental stewards.

#### **Method IE.1: Partnering with mana whenua/tangata whenua to give local effect to the decision-making principles for indigenous biodiversity Te Rito o te Harakeke**

Partner with mana whenua/tangata whenua to identify the local approach to give effect to the decision-making principles for indigenous biodiversity Te Rito o te Harakeke and develop guidance on how to implement this.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council

#### **Method IE.2: Inventory of biodiversity offsetting and biodiversity compensation opportunities - Non-regulatory**

Partner with mana whenua/tangata whenua, and interested parties to develop a regional inventory of opportunities for offsetting or compensating for any residual adverse effects on ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council\*, city and district councils, and iwi authorities

#### **Method IE.3: Regional biodiversity strategy**

Develop and implement, in partnership with mana whenua / tangata whenua and in collaboration with territorial authorities, communities and other key stakeholders, a regional biodiversity strategy to ~~maintain and restore~~ promote the landscape-scale restoration of the region's indigenous biodiversity at a landscape scale, incorporating both Mātauranga Māori and systematic conservation planning and meeting the requirements in Appendix 5 (regional biodiversity strategies) in the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity 2023.

Implementation: Wellington Regional Council

#### **Method IE.4: Kaitiaki indigenous biodiversity monitoring programme**

Work in partnership with mana whenua/tangata whenua to establish and resource kaitiaki programmes to:

- (a) monitor and evaluate the ecosystem health and trends of the region's indigenous biodiversity and the extent to which the decision-making principles for indigenous biodiversity are ~~Te Rito o te Harakeke~~ is being given effect to, and

- (b) develop action plans to respond to the monitoring results, including informing the identification of targets and priorities through Method IE.3.

*Implementation: Wellington Regional Council*

**Method 21: ~~Information to assist with the identification~~ Identification and protection of indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values**

The regional council will liaise with the region's territorial authorities to ensure that all district plans include, ~~by 30 June 2025 at the latest, as soon as reasonably practicable and by no later than 4 August 2028,~~ a schedule of indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values and plan provisions to protect them from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.

Where a district-wide indigenous biodiversity assessment has not been initiated by 30 June 2024, the regional council will liaise with the territorial authority to agree on a programme of works and an understanding as to whether:

- (a) the territorial authority shall continue to have sole responsibility; or  
(b) ~~the regional council shall take full responsibility; or~~  
(be) the territorial authority and the regional council shall share responsibilities.

~~Prepare and disseminate information to assist with the interpretation of the criteria set out in policies 23 and 24, which require the identification and protection of indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values.~~

*Implementation: Wellington Regional Council\* and city and district councils*

**Method 32: ~~Partnering Engagement with mana whenua/tangata whenua, and partnering where appropriate and engaging with~~ Partnering with mana whenua/tangata whenua, and partnering where appropriate and engaging with stakeholders, landowners and the community in the identification and protection of significant values**

1. ~~Partner with iwi, hapū, marae and/or whānau to identify and protect areas and sites of significance to mana whenua/tangata whenua; and~~
  2. ~~Involve Partner with iwi, hapū, marae and/or whānau, and partner where appropriate and engage with~~ Partner with iwi, hapū, marae and/or whānau, and partner where appropriate and engage with stakeholders, landowners, and the community ~~in the to:~~
- (a) ~~identification and protection of significant places, sites and areas with significant cultural heritage values and~~ identification and protection of significant places, sites and areas with significant cultural heritage values and significant historic heritage values;

- (b) identification and protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes, and identify and manage the values of special amenity landscapes, including those with significant cultural values;
- (c) identification and protection of indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant biodiversity values, including those of significance to mana whenua/tangata whenua;
- (ca) develop and implement a regional biodiversity strategy described in Method IE.3; and
- (d) protection of the values, including mana whenua/tangata whenua values, associated with the rivers and lakes identified in Appendix 1; and
- (e) identify nature-based solutions to climate change as described in Method CC.6; and
- (f) identify and protect highly productive land.

*Implementation: Wellington Regional Council (all clauses) and city and district councils (clauses 2(a), (b), (c) and (f))*

**Method 53: Support mana whenua and community restoration initiatives for the coastal environment, rivers, lakes and wetlands indigenous ecosystems**

Provide practical support for mana whenua and community restoration initiatives for the coastal environment, rivers, lakes and wetlands indigenous ecosystems, with a focus on achieving the targets and priorities identified by Methods IE.23, CC.4 and CC.76.

*Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils*

**Method 54: Assist landowners to maintain, enhance and restore indigenous ecosystems**

Assist landowners to maintain, enhance and/or restore indigenous ecosystems, with a focus on achieving the targets and priorities identified by Methods IE.23, CC.4 and CC.76, including by, but not limited to:

- (a) assisting with the costs of legally protecting indigenous ecosystems by way of open space covenants with Queen Elizabeth the Second National Trust (QEII);
- (b) considering opportunities for partnerships (e.g., through Ngā Whenua Rāhui), advice, education, support and incentives, such as rates rebates;
- (c) assisting with the costs of controlling pest plants and animals; and
- (d) supporting landowners to *restore* significant indigenous ecosystems by fencing and planting.

*Implementation: Wellington Regional Council and city and district councils*

**Anticipated Environmental Results (AER)**

<p><b>Indigenous ecosystems</b></p>	<p><b>Objective 16</b> Indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant <u>ecosystem functions and services</u> and/or <u>indigenous biodiversity values, other significant habitats of indigenous fauna, and the ecosystem functions of these ecosystems and habitats</u>, are <del>maintained</del> <u>protected, enhanced, and restored</u> to a healthy functioning state.</p>	<p> <b>FW</b></p> <p>1. District and regional plans have identified indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant <u>indigenous biodiversity values and other significant habitats of indigenous fauna</u>.</p>
	<p><b>Objective 16A</b> The region's indigenous <u>biodiversity is ecosystems are maintained</u>, enhanced, and restored to a healthy functioning state, <u>improving its their resilience to increasing environmental pressures, particularly climate change, and giving effect to the Te Rito o te Harakeke</u>.</p>	<p> <b>FW</b></p> <p>2. District and regional plans contain policies, rules and/or methods to protect <u>indigenous biodiversity values</u> from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.</p>
	<p><b>Objective 16B</b> Mana whenua / tangata whenua values relating to indigenous biodiversity, particularly taonga species, and the important</p>	<p> <b>FW</b></p> <p>3. There is no loss of <u>extent or condition of indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant indigenous biodiversity values and other significant habitats of indigenous fauna, and their ecosystem functions</u>.</p> <p>4. <u>Indigenous biodiversity across the Wellington Region is maintained and biodiversity indicators are improving across the region, identified in a district or regional plan</u>.</p>
	<p><b>Objective 16B</b> Mana whenua / tangata whenua values relating to indigenous biodiversity, particularly taonga species, and the important</p>	<p> <b>FW</b></p> <p>4.5. <u>There is at least a 20 percent increase in the area of indigenous ecosystems and habitats that are legally protected.</u></p> <p>5. <u>A regional biodiversity strategy has been prepared, and progress to meet defined 10-year targets is demonstrated</u></p>

	<p>relationship between indigenous <i>ecosystem health</i> and well-being, are given effect to in decision-making, and mana whenua / tangata whenua are supported to exercise their kaitiakitanga for indigenous biodiversity.</p> <p><b>Objective 16C</b> Landowner and community values in relation to indigenous biodiversity are recognised and provided for and their roles as stewards are supported.</p>	<p>6. <u>Mana whenua/tangata whenua are satisfied that their values associated with indigenous biodiversity, particular taonga species, are appropriately provided for in resource management decision-making, including through the application of Mātauranga Māori.</u></p> <p>7. <u>Mana whenua/tangata whenua are satisfied with the level of support to exercise their kaitiakitanga for indigenous biodiversity.</u></p> <p>8. <u>Landowners and communities are satisfied with the level of support provided to enable their roles as stewards of indigenous biodiversity.</u></p>
--	---	---

CONFIDENTIAL DRAFT

**Definitions** (*\*terms as defined in the NPS-IB*)

<b>Defined term</b>	<b>RPS Definition</b>
<u>Biodiversity compensation</u>	A measurable positive <del>environmental conservation</del> outcome resulting from actions that are designed to compensate for <u>any more than minor residual adverse biodiversity effects on indigenous biodiversity that cannot be otherwise managed after all appropriate avoidance, minimisation, remediation, and biodiversity offsetting measures have been sequentially applied.</u> This includes biodiversity compensation in the <u>terrestrial environment and aquatic compensation for the extent and values of rivers and natural inland wetlands.</u>
<u>Biodiversity offsetting</u>	A measurable positive <del>environmental conservation</del> outcome resulting from actions designed to redress for <u>any more than minor the residual adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity arising from activities after all appropriate avoidance, minimisation, and remediation measures have been sequentially applied.</u> The goal of biodiversity offsetting is to achieve <u>no net loss, and preferably a net gain, of in type, amount, and condition of indigenous biodiversity values compared to that lost.</u> This includes biodiversity offsetting in the <u>terrestrial environment and aquatic offsetting for the extent and values of rivers and natural inland wetlands.</u>
<u>Buffer/buffering*</u>	<u>A defined space between core areas of ecological value and the wider landscape that helps to reduce external pressures.</u>
<u>Decision-making principles for indigenous biodiversity*</u>	<u>The following decision-making principles must inform the management of indigenous biodiversity:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) <u>prioritise the mauri, intrinsic value and well-being of indigenous biodiversity,</u></li> <li>(b) <u>take into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi),</u></li> <li>(c) <u>recognise the bond between mana whenua/tangata whenua and indigenous biodiversity based on whakapapa relationships,</u></li> </ul>

Commented [c11]: Amendment proposed in Section 11 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024.

Commented [c12]: Amendment proposed in Section 11 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024.

	<p>(d) <u>recognise the obligation and responsibility of care that mana whenua/tangata whenua have as kaitiaki of indigenous biodiversity,</u></p> <p>(e) <u>recognise the role of people and communities (including landowners) as stewards of indigenous biodiversity,</u></p> <p>(f) <u>enable the application of te ao Māori and mātauranga Māori, and</u></p> <p>(g) <u>form strong and effective partnerships with mana whenua /tangata whenua.</u></p>
<u>Ecological Connectivity*</u>	<p><u>Refers to the degree of connection that provides for the movement of genetic alleles and species and the maintenance of ecosystem processes within and between populations and ecosystems</u></p> <p><u>The structural or functional links or connections between habitats and ecosystems that provide for the movement of species and processes among and between the habitats or ecosystems.</u></p>
<u>Ecosystem function*</u>	<u>The abiotic (physical) and biotic (ecological and biological) flows that are properties of an ecosystem.</u>
<u>Ecosystem health</u>	<u>The degree to which an ecosystem is able to sustain its ecological structure, processes, functions, and resilience within its range of natural variability.</u>
<u>Ecological integrity*</u>	<p><u>The full potential of indigenous biotic and abiotic features and natural processes, functioning in sustainable communities, habitats, and landscapes.</u></p> <p><u>The extent to which an ecosystem is able to support and maintain its:</u></p> <p><u>(a) composition (being its natural diversity of indigenous species, habitats, and communities); and</u></p> <p><u>(b) structure (being its biotic and abiotic physical features); and</u></p> <p><u>(c) functions (being its ecological and physical processes).</u></p>

<p>Enhancement (in relation to indigenous biodiversity)</p>	<p>The active intervention and management of modified or degraded habitats, ecosystems, landforms and landscapes in order to reinstate indigenous natural character, ecological and physical processes, and cultural and visual qualities. The aim of enhancement actions is to improve the condition of the environment, but not to return it to a former state.</p>
<p>Indigenous biodiversity</p>	<p>The living organisms that occur naturally in New Zealand, and the ecological complexes of which they are part, including all forms of indigenous flora, fauna, and fungi, and their habitats.</p>
<p>Indigenous ecosystem</p>	<p>An ecosystem with a dominant or significant indigenous natural character.</p>
<p>Maintain/maintained / maintenance (in relation to indigenous biodiversity)*</p>	<p><del>At least no reduction in the following:</del></p> <p>(a) <del>the size of populations of indigenous species</del></p> <p>(b) <del>indigenous species occupancy across their natural range</del></p> <p>(c) <del>the properties and function of ecosystems and habitats</del></p> <p>(d) <del>the full range and extent of ecosystems and habitats</del></p> <p>(e) <del>connectivity between and buffering around, ecosystems</del></p> <p>(f) <del>the resilience and adaptability of ecosystems.</del></p> <p><del>The maintenance of indigenous biodiversity may also require the restoration or enhancement of ecosystems and habitats.</del></p> <p>Maintaining indigenous biodiversity requires:</p> <p>(a) the maintenance and at least no overall reduction of all the following:</p> <p>(i) the size of populations of indigenous species;</p> <p>(ii) indigenous species occupancy across their natural range;</p> <p>(iii) the properties and function of ecosystems and habitats used or occupied by indigenous biodiversity;</p> <p>(iv) the full range and extent of ecosystems and habitats used or occupied by indigenous biodiversity;</p> <p>(v) connectivity between, and buffering around, ecosystems used or occupied by indigenous biodiversity;</p> <p>(vi) the resilience and adaptability of ecosystems; and</p>

Commented [c13]: New definition supported at paragraph 11.4 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024.

	<u>(b) where necessary, the restoration and enhancement of ecosystems and habitats.</u>
<u>Naturally uncommon ecosystems</u>	Ecosystems with an estimated maximum total area of <0.5% (i.e., <134,000ha) of New Zealand’s land area (268,680 km <sup>2</sup> ) before human colonization.  The 72 naturally uncommon ecosystems in New Zealand are described in Wiser, Susan K et al “New Zealand's Naturally Uncommon Ecosystems” 2013 available at <a href="https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/uploads/public/researchpubs/uncommon-ecosystems-book-section.pdf">https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/uploads/public/researchpubs/uncommon-ecosystems-book-section.pdf</a>
<u>Protect (in relation to indigenous biodiversity):</u>	<del>Looking after biodiversity and the ecosystem processes that create and maintain it in the long term. This involves managing all threats to secure species from extinction and ensuring that their populations are buffered from the impacts of the loss of genetic diversity and longer term environmental events such as climate change. This includes, but is not restricted to, legal protection.</del>
<u>Resilience (in relation to an ecosystem)*</u>	The ability of an ecosystem to absorb and recover from disturbances <u>and its capacity to reorganise into similar ecosystems.</u>
<u>Restoration (in relation to indigenous biodiversity)*</u>	<del>In relation to indigenous biodiversity, means t</del> The active intervention and management of modified or degraded habitats, ecosystems, landforms and landscapes in order to <u>maintain or reinstate indigenous natural character, ecological and physical processes, and cultural and visual qualities, and may include enhancement activities.</u>
<u>Restoration (in relation to a natural inland wetland)**</u>	<u>Active intervention and management, appropriate to the type and location of the wetland, aimed at restoring its ecosystem health, indigenous biodiversity, or hydrological functioning.</u>
<u>Systematic Conservation Planning</u>	<u>A spatially explicit, objective-based and quantitative approach for identifying priority areas for biodiversity conservation.</u>
<u>Te Rito o te Harakeke</u>	<del>Te Rito o te Harakeke is a concept that refers to the need to maintain the integrity of indigenous biodiversity. It recognises the</del>

Commented [c14]: Deletion of definition of 'protect' supported in Paragraph 11.3 of the statement of evidence of Christine Foster dated 30 January 2024.

	<p><u>intrinsic value and mauri of indigenous biodiversity as well as people's connections and relationships with it.</u></p> <p><u>It recognises that our health and wellbeing are dependent on the health and wellbeing of indigenous biodiversity and that in return we have a responsibility to care for it. It acknowledges the web of interconnectedness between indigenous species, ecosystems, the wider environment, and the community.</u></p> <p><u>Te Rito o te Harakeke comprises six essential elements to guide tangata whenua and local authorities in managing indigenous biodiversity and developing objectives, policies, and methods for giving effect to Te Rito o te Harakeke:</u></p> <p><u>(a) the intrinsic value and mauri of indigenous biodiversity:</u></p> <p><u>(b) the bond between people and indigenous biodiversity through whakapapa (familial) relationships and mutual interdependence:</u></p> <p><u>(c) the responsibility of care that tangata whenua have as kaitiaki, and that other New Zealanders have as stewards, of indigenous biodiversity:</u></p> <p><u>(d) the connectivity between indigenous biodiversity and the wider environment:</u></p> <p><u>(e) the incorporation of te ao Māori and mātauranga Māori:</u></p> <p><u>(f) the requirement to partner with tangata whenua.</u></p>
<p><u>Threatened ecosystems</u> <del>or</del> <u>Threatened or At Risk species</u></p>	<p><u>These Threatened ecosystems are described by the IUCN Red List categories, Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable.</u></p>
<p><u>Threatened or At Risk species</u> *</p>	<p><u>Threatened or At Risk and Threatened or At Risk (declining) species have, at any time, the meanings given in the New Zealand Threat Classification System Manual (Andrew J Townsend, Peter J de Lange, Clinton A J Duffy, Colin Miskelly, Janice Molloy and David A Norton, 2008. Science &amp; Technical Publishing, Department of Conservation, Wellington), available at:</u></p>

<a href="https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-andtechnical/sap244.pdf">https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/science-andtechnical/sap244.pdf</a> , or its current successor publication
--

## **Appendix 1A: Limits to biodiversity offsetting and biodiversity compensation<sup>2</sup>**

This appendix identifies the ecosystems and species that either meet or exceed the limits to the use of biodiversity offsetting and biodiversity compensation in the Wellington Region<sup>3</sup>. The setting of limits to the use of offsetting is one of the ten internationally accepted principles of biodiversity offsetting recognised by the Business and Biodiversity Offset Programme.<sup>4</sup> Policy 24A gives effect to this direction in the Wellington Region.

Policy 24 A (a) directs that where policies and/or rules in district and regional plans enable the use of biodiversity offsetting or biodiversity compensation they shall not provide for biodiversity offsetting or biodiversity compensation: where there is no appropriate site, knowledge, proven methods, expertise or mechanism available to design and implement an adequate biodiversity offset (clause (b)); or when an activity is anticipated to cause residual adverse effects on an area after an offset or compensate has been implemented if the ecosystem or species is threatened or the ecosystem is naturally uncommon (clause (c)). This appendix identifies the species and ecosystems that meet these criteria in the Wellington Region.

~~Policy 24(b) directs that where policies and/or rules in district and regional plans enable the use of biodiversity compensation they shall not provide for biodiversity compensation where an activity is anticipated to cause residual adverse effects on an area if the ecosystem or species is threatened or the ecosystem is naturally uncommon.~~

This appendix also identifies the ecosystems and species in the Wellington Region meeting the criteria for Policy 11(a) of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 (NZCPS) ~~2020~~, and for which adverse effects must be avoided. Consideration of biodiversity offsetting or biodiversity compensation for these ecosystems or species is therefore not provided for.

~~To avoid doubt, ecosystems and species that meet the criteria for:~~

- ~~• Policy 24(a)(i) exceed the limits of biodiversity offsetting meaning that applications for biodiversity offsetting cannot be considered.~~
- ~~• Policy 24(a)(ii) meet the limits of biodiversity offsetting. Applications for offsetting can be considered only if the anticipated offset plans to redress all residual adverse effects.~~

<sup>2</sup> Appendix 1A added 18/12/23

<sup>3</sup> As identified in Crisp P and Oliver M. 2022. Limits to offsetting – Thresholds of concern for biodiversity. Greater Wellington Regional Council, Publication No. GW/ESCI-G-22/11, Wellington.

<sup>4</sup> Business and Biodiversity Offsets Programme (2018). The BBOP principles on biodiversity offsets, [https://www.forest-trends.org/wpcontent/uploads/2018/10/The-BBOP-Principles\\_20181023.pdf](https://www.forest-trends.org/wpcontent/uploads/2018/10/The-BBOP-Principles_20181023.pdf)

• Policy 24A(c)(b) exceed the limits of biodiversity compensation meaning that applications for compensation cannot be considered.

To avoid doubt:

• Applications for offsetting adverse effects on ecosystems and species that meet the criteria in Policy 24A(b) can only be considered if at least a net gain, and preferably a 10% net gain or greater, in the indigenous biodiversity values affected can be reasonably demonstrated.

• Policy 24A(c) describes the situations when biodiversity compensation is not appropriate, meaning that where Policy 24A(c) applies applications for compensation cannot be considered.

• NZCPS Policy 11(a) exceed the limits of biodiversity offsetting and biodiversity compensation meaning that applications for offsetting or compensation cannot be considered.

The species listed in Table 17 are the nationally Threatened species and ecosystems and naturally uncommon ecosystems that are found within the Wellington Region, as detailed in the relevant publications listed on the Department of Conservation’s New Zealand Threat Classification web page. These ecosystems and species are assessed as being “vulnerable” or “irreplaceable” in accordance with the principles as to when biodiversity offsetting and biodiversity compensation is inappropriate. Note that the species list will change over time as national threat lists are updated or more knowledge is gained about the presence or absence of a species in the Wellington Region. The most up-to-date threat classification should be used at the time of making an assessment under Policy 24A or Policy 47 (h) and (i).

**Table 17:** Ecosystems and species that either meet or exceed the limits to the use of *biodiversity offsetting* and *biodiversity compensation* in the Wellington Region (there are some duplicates of ecosystems and species as some habitats relate to more than one ecosystem type).

Wetland ecosystems



Ecosystem or species name	Policy 24A(b)&(c) (a)(ii) Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)	Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)	NZCPS Policy 11(a)
---------------------------	--	----------------------	--------------------

		<u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism<sup>5</sup></u>	
<u>Coastal turfs</u>	<u>Yes Critically Endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Dune slacks</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Domed bogs</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Seepages and flushes</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Sinkholes</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Ephemeral wetlands</u>	<u>Yes Critically Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u>Lagoons</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u>Lake margins</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<u>Tarns</u>	<u>Yes Naturally Uncommon</u>		

#### Wetland plant species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) <del>{a}&amp;{b}</del> Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) <del>{a}&amp;{b}</del> No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Crassula peduncularis</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u>Epilobium hirtigerum</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u>Juncus holoschoenus var holoschoenus</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u>Sebaea ovatus</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u>Simplicia felix</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u>Urticularia australis</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u>Centipeda minima subsp minima</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		
<u>Isolepis basilaris</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		

<sup>5</sup> This column shows situations where it is not feasible to offset for residual adverse effects because there is no appropriate site, knowledge, proven methods, expertise, or mechanism available to design and implement an adequate biodiversity offset.

<i>Mazus novaezeelandiae</i> subsp. <i>impolitus</i>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		
<i>Myosurus minimus</i> subsp. <i>Novae zelandiae</i>	<u>Yes</u>		
<i>Pterostylis irwinni</i>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		
<i>Pterostylis micromega</i>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		
<i>Amphibromus fluitans</i>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<i>Carex cirrhosa</i>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<i>Gratiola concinna</i>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<i>Libertia peregrinans</i>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<i>Spiranthes novae zelandiae</i>	<u>Yes</u>		
<i>Juncus pauciflorus</i>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		

#### Wetland bird species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b) (a)(ii)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<i>Anas superciliosa superciliosa</i> (grey duck)	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i> (matuku, bittern)	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<i>Calidris canutus rogersi</i> (lesser knot)	<u>Yes</u>		

#### Wetland invertebrate species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b) (a)(ii)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NCPS Policy 11(a)</u>

	<u>uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>		
<u>Lepidurus apus viridis</u> (tadpole shrimp)	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		
<u>Echyridella aucklandica</u> (kākahi)	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>

#### Riverine ecosystems

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b) (a)(ii)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Braided riverbeds</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		

#### Riverine plant species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b) (a)(ii)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Myosotis pottsiana</u>	<u>Yes</u>	-	
<u>Rorippa divaricata</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<u>Fissidens berteroi</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		

#### Riverine bird species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b) (a)(ii)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Larus bulleri</u> (black-billed gull)	<u>Yes</u>		<u>Yes</u>

<u><i>Charadrius bicinctus bicinctus</i> (banded dotterel)</u>	<u>Yes</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Chidonias albostratus</i></u>	<u>Endangered</u>		

#### Riverine invertebrate species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii): Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(ii): No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u><i>Omanperla hollowayae</i></u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u><i>Potamopyrqus oppidanus</i></u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u><i>Hydrochorema</i> n. sp.</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		
<u><i>Cryptobiosella furcata</i></u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		
<u><i>Cryptobiosella spinosa</i></u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		
<u><i>Echyridella aucklandica</i> (kākahi)</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Xenobiosella motueka</i></u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		

#### Riverine fish species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii): Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(ii): No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u><i>Galaxias postvectis</i> (shortjaw kōkopu)</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<u><i>Geotria australis</i> (lamprey)</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		

#### Lacustrine ecosystem

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii):</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(ii):</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>

	<u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	
<u>Inland sand dunes</u>	<u>Yes Critically endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Shingle beaches</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Stony beach ridges</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Ephemeral wetlands</u>	<u>Yes Critically endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u>Lagoons</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u>Lake margins</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<u>Estuaries</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>

#### Lacustrine plant species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u><i>Althenia bilocularis</i></u> <sup>6</sup>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>	=	
<u><i>Pterostylis micromega</i></u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u><i>Amphibromus fluitans</i></u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		
<u><i>Ricciocarpos natans</i></u>	<u>Yes</u>		
<u><i>Isolepis basilaris</i></u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		
<u><i>Carex cirrhosa</i></u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<u><i>Fissidens berteroi</i></u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		

#### Lacustrine bird species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
----------------------------------	---	---	---------------------------

<sup>6</sup> previously listed as a riverine plant specie

	<u>uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>		
<u>Anas chlorotis</u>	<u>Increasing</u>		
<u>Anas superciliosa</u> <u>superciliosa (grey duck)</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u>Egretta alba</u> <u>modesta</u> <u>Ardea alba</u> <u>(white heron)</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u>Botaurus poiciloptilus</u> <u>(matuku, bittern)</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u>Larus bulleri</u> <u>(black-billed</u> <u>gull)</u>	<u>Yes</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u>Charadrius bicinctus</u> <u>bicinctus (banded</u> <u>dotterel)</u>	<u>Yes</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u>Anarhynchus frontalis</u> <u>(wrybill)</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<u>Calidris canutus rogersi</u> <u>(lesser knot)</u>	<u>Yes</u>		
<u>Hydroprogne caspia</u> <u>(Caspian tern)</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u>Poliiocephalus rufopectus</u> <u>(New Zealand dabchick)</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		

**Lacustrine fish species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Geodria australis</u> <u>(lamprey)</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		

**Lacustrine invertebrate species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u><i>Orthoclydon pseudostinaria</i></u>	<u>Yes</u>		
<u><i>Lepidurus apus viridis</i> (tadpole shrimp)</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		
<u><i>Echyridella aucklandica</i> (kākahi)</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>

**Marine habitat or ecosystem**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Bull kelp forests (<i>Durviallea</i> spp.)</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Cook Strait shelf-edge canyon habitats</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Matikona reef habitats</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Opouawe Bank methane seeps</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Adamsiella algal beds</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Deepsea woodfall habitat</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Rhodolith beds</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Hydroid tree communities</u>		<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Beds of large bivalve molluscs (horse mussels, scallops, oysters, <i>Dosinia</i> spp.)</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>

<u>Mixed high current assemblages (e.g., sponge gardens)</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Tubeworm (polychaete) fields and mounds</u>		<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Sea anemone meadows</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Seagrass meadows</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Brachiopod beds</u>		<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Bryozoan thickets</u>		<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Black coral colonies</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Giant kelp (<i>Macrocystis</i> spp.) forests</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Mixed kelp assemblages</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Seamounts</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
<u>Estuaries</u>		<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>

**Marine algae species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)(i)&amp;(c) <del>(a)(ii)</del></u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) <del>(a)(i)</del></u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u><i>Dione arcuate</i></u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Gelidium johnstonii</i></u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Gigartina dilatata</i></u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Prasionema heeschiai</i></u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Gigartina</i> sp. C</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Prasiola</i> sp. A</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Prasiola novaezelandiae</i></u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>

**Marine invertebrate species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<i>Smeaqol climoi</i>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<i>Boccardiella magniovata</i>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<i>Spio aequalis</i>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<i>Paragorgia alisonae</i>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>

**Marine mammal species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<i>Orcinus orca</i>	<u>Critical</u>		<u>Yes</u>

**Marine shark species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	<u>Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>

**Coastal margin habitat or ecosystem**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
----------------------------------	--	---	---------------------------

Coastal turfs	<del>Yes</del> <u>Critically endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Marine mammal haul-outs	<del>Yes</del> <u>Critically endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Seabird burrowed soils	<del>Yes</del> <u>Critically endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Shingle beaches	<del>Yes</del> <u>Endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Stony beach ridges	<del>Yes</del> <u>Endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Calcareous coastal cliffs	<del>Yes</del> <u>Endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Coastal cliffs on acidic rock stacks	<del>Yes</del> <u>Least concern</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Coastal rock stacks	<del>Yes</del> <u>Least concern</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Active sand dunes	<del>Yes</del> <u>Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
Stable sand dunes	<del>Yes</del> <u>Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
Estuaries	<del>Yes</del> <u>Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>

#### Coastal plant species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<del>Policy 24 A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</del> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<del>Policy 24 A(b) (a)(i)-</del> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<i>Leptinella nana</i>	<del>Yes</del> <u>Critical</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<i>Muehlenbeckia astonii</i>	<del>Yes</del> <u>Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<i>Pimelea aff villosa</i>	<del>Yes</del> <u>Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<i>Atriplex buchananii</i>	<del>Yes</del> <u>Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<i>Myosotis brevis</i>	<del>Yes</del> <u>Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<i>Lepidium oleraceum</i>	<u>Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<i>Pimelea aff. aridula</i>	<u>Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>

#### Coastal bird species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<del>Policy 24 A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</del> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally</u>	<del>Policy 24 A(b) (a)(i)-</del>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
----------------------------------	---	-----------------------------------	---------------------------

	<u>uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	
<u><i>Egretta sacra sacra</i> (reef heron)</u>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Charadrius bicinctus bicinctus</i> (banded dotterel)</u>	<u>Yes</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Hydroprogne caspia</i> (Caspian tern)</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Charadrius obscurus aquilonius</i></u>	<u>Increasing</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Chidonias albostratus</i></u>	<u>Endangered</u>		<u>Yes</u>
<u><i>Stictocarbo punctatus</i></u>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>

#### Coastal lizard species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii) Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i) No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u><i>Oligosma whitakeri</i> (Whitaker's skink)</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>

#### Coastal lichen species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii) Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i) No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u><i>Ramalina pacifa</i></u>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		<u>Yes</u>

#### Coastal moth species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>

	<u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	
<u>Notoreas peronata subsp. "Castlepoint"</u>	<u>Critical</u>		<u>Yes</u>

#### Forest ecosystem

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b) (a)(ii)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Titoki, ngaio</u>	<u>Yes Critically endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Totara, matai, ribbonwood</u>	<u>Yes Critically endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Tawa, titoki, podocarp</u>	<u>Yes Critically endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Totara, matai, broadleaf</u>	<u>Yes Critically endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Kahikatea, pukatea</u>	<u>Yes Critically endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Totara, titoki</u>	<u>Yes Critically endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Kahikatea, totara, matai</u>	<u>Yes Critically endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Black beech</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Cloud forests</u>	<u>Yes Least concern</u>	<u>Yes</u>	

#### Forest plant species

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b) (a)(ii)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Brachylottis pentacope</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u>Didymodon calycinus</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u>Gastrodia coperae</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		

<i>Korthasella salicornioides</i>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<i>Oleria gardneri</i>	<u>Yes Endangered</u>		
<i>Brachyglottis kirkii</i> var <i>kirkii</i>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<i>Dactylanthus taylorii</i>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<i>Kunzea serotina</i>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<i>Pittosporum obcordatum</i>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<i>Solanum aviculare</i> var <i>aviculare</i>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		

**Forest bird species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b) (a)(ii)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<i>Notiomystis cincta</i> (Stitchbird)	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		
<i>Eudynamis taitensis</i>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		
<i>Nestor meridionalis meridionalis</i>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		
<i>Falco novaeseelandiae ferox</i>	<u>Increasing</u>		

**Forest lizard species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24 A(b) (a)(ii)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<i>Oligosoma aff. infrapunctatum</i> 'southern North Island'	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>		

**Forest invertebrate species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u><i>Orthoclydon pseudostinaria</i></u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		

**Forest bat species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u><i>Chalinolobus tuberculatus</i></u> <u>(long-tailed bat)</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u>		
<u><i>Mystacina tuberculata rhyacobi</i></u> <u>(central lesser short-tailed bat)</u>	<u>Yes</u>		

**Forest mushroom species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(ii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u><i>Cortinarius gemmeus</i></u>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		
<u><i>Inocybe amygdalina</i></u>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		
<u><i>Laccaria oaraphysata</i></u>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		
<u><i>Russula albolutescens</i></u>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		
<u><i>Russula allochroa</i></u>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		
<u><i>Russula aucklandica</i></u>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		
<u><i>Russula multicystidata</i></u>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		

<u>Russula vinaceocuticulata</u>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		
----------------------------------	-------------------	--	--

**Forest moth species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Orthoclydon pseudostinaria</u>	<u>Critical</u>		
<u>"Schiffermuelleria" orthophanes</u>	<u>Critical</u>		

**Other ecosystem**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Cave entrances</u>	<u>Yes Critically endangered</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Calcareous cliffs, scarps and tors</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Boulderfields of calcareous rocks</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>	<u>Yes</u>	

**Other plant species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Simplicia felix</u>	<u>Yes Critical</u> <u>Mudstone</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Anogramma leptophylla</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u> <u>Rock faces</u>	<u>Yes</u>	

<u>Cladia blanchonii</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>	<u>Basalt outcrops</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Geranium retrorsum</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>	<u>Cliffs</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
<u>Pimelea tomentosa</u>	<u>Yes Vulnerable</u>	<u>Cliffs</u>	<u>Yes</u>	

**Land snail species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Poweliphanta traversi otakii</u>	<u>Critical</u>		

**Land orthoptera species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Deinacrida rugosa (Cook Strait weta)</u>	<u>Vulnerable</u>		

**Land invertebrate species**

<u>Ecosystem or species name</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b)&amp;(c) (a)(iii)</u> <u>Threatened species or ecosystem or naturally uncommon ecosystem (Threat Status)</u>	<u>Policy 24A(b) (a)(i)</u> <u>No appropriate site, knowledge, methods, expertise, mechanism</u>	<u>NZCPS Policy 11(a)</u>
<u>Prasmiola unica</u>	<u>Critical</u>		